

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

TO THE

GRADUATES

OF

The Hahnemann Medical College

OF PHILADELPHIA,

DELIVERED AT THE

Benevolent by
F. L. Bradford.

Twenty-Fourth Annual Commencement,

HELD AT THE

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, MARCH 11, 1872.

BY

A. R. THOMAS, M.D.

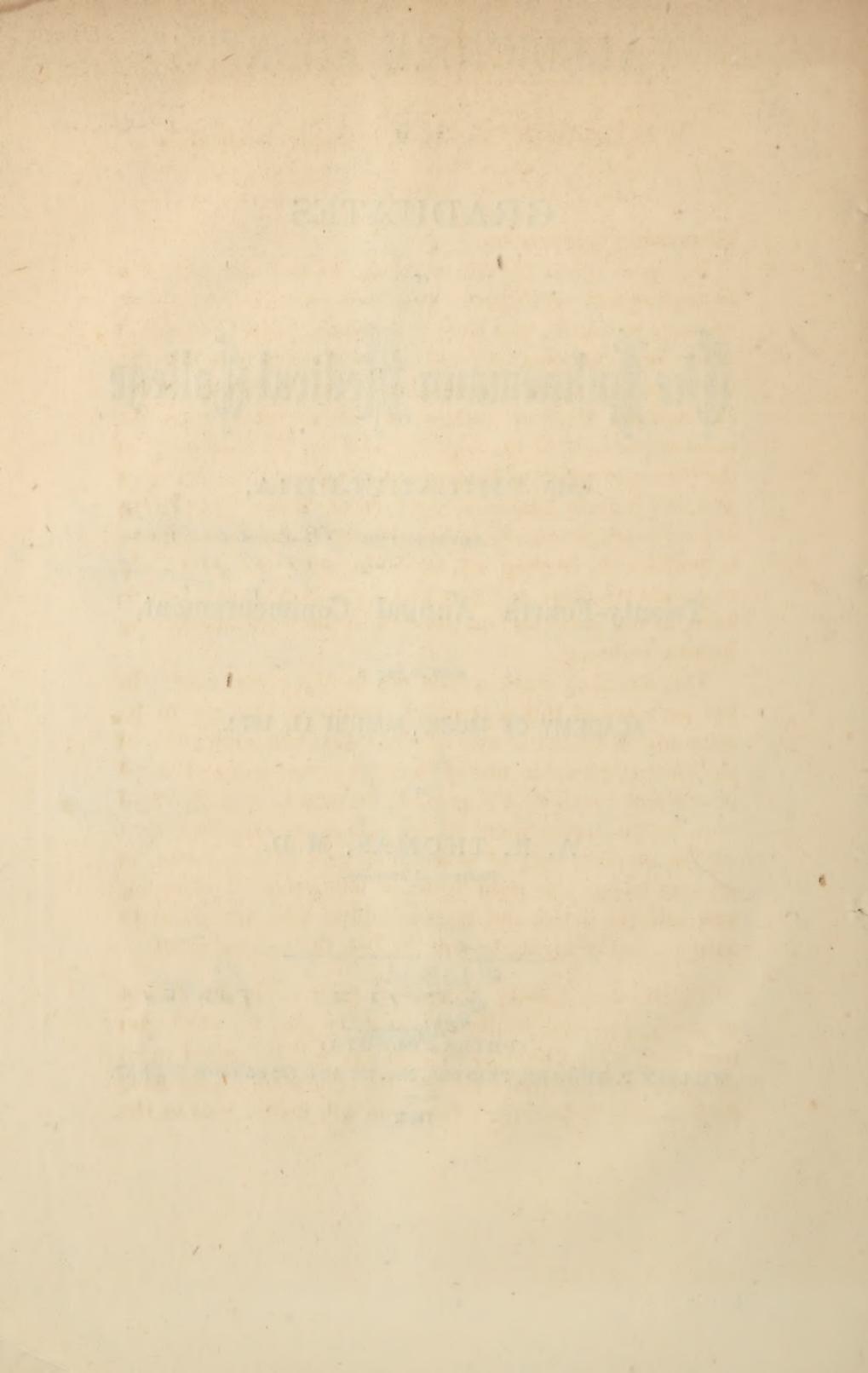
Professor of Anatomy.

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1872.



VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN GRADUATES:

We have assembled this morning, for our last interview as student and instructor. You have completed the course of study required; you have successfully passed the ordeal of the final examinations, and are now ready to enter the ranks of the medical profession. The President of the Hahnemann Medical College, of Philadelphia, upon the recommendation of the Faculty, and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is about to confer upon you, the highest honors of your Alma Mater, and placing in your hands the legally authorized certificate of your fitness to practise the healing art, suddenly sever our previously sustained relations, and give you a position upon this platform, as our peers and co-laborers, in the work of relieving human suffering.

This day is to mark a new era in your existence. In the presence of this assembled multitude, you are to be solemnly dedicated to one of the most honorable, one of the most responsible, one of the most benevolent and useful professions in which it is possible for man to engage. And now, by the appointment of my colleagues, devolves upon me the pleasing duty of welcoming you to our ranks, of offering to you the right hand of fellowship, of charging you with the duties and responsibilities you are about to assume, and of saying to you the last, the parting word.

GENTLEMEN, having completed your collegiate course of study, you have finally arrived at the goal for which you have long been striving, and soon you will be called upon to apply the principles, to use the knowledge you have been so long acquiring. Then you will realize, that to the

conscientious enlightened physician, there is, and can be, no such thing as *finishing* studies, or *completing* an education. Then you will find, that instead of having attained the summit of medical science, you have been merely culling a few flowers around its base, simply learning how its rugged steeps may best be climbed.

He who supposes that by a three or four years' course of the *closest* application to the study of medicine, he has mastered the science, and that henceforth, to him, its practice will be plain and easy, makes a great mistake, a mistake alike dangerous to his future usefulness and professional respectability. No greater error can be made, than for the young physician to suppose that, after having received his diploma, he has no further need of study, that he has only to quietly remain in his office, waiting for the tardy appearance of his first patients. No, gentlemen, the many hours of leisure which you will find upon your hands while waiting for business, should be treasured as golden moments, as favored opportunities for refreshing your minds upon the more difficult branches of study which you have already passed over, and for extending your investigations into new fields of inquiry. Improve these opportunities; and while your attention will naturally be given, in the main, to subjects relating to your profession, do not neglect to enrich your minds by a perusal of the standard authors in general literature, including history, biography, &c., for, as reputation is acquired, and you become involved in the busy turmoil of an active professional life, few will be the opportunities for such mental recreation.

You are already aware, that many of the departments of medical science are thronged with such difficulties, as to have exacted for their complete mastery, a life-time of earnest devoted study, and from minds of the highest order. And yet, just in proportion to the extent of your acquaintance, the accuracy of your knowledge of these branches, will be the dignity of your professional status. With all you have thus far attained, with so much yet un-

learned or unfamiliar, will you not feel that your student life is but fairly begun? When you remember that medicine is yet but in its infancy, and that in the direction of its several branches, lie vast realms yet unknown, but discoverable, waiting only the daring of genius, the tireless energy and unflagging perseverance of human intellect to unveil their hidden mysteries, will you not be stimulated to a noble, an untiring enthusiasm, in the pursuit of knowledge? Will you be content to abide where you are, while upon every hand you are surrounded by inducements for prosecuting your investigations, and while the spirit of the age even, cries *onward and upward?*

Continue then to be students; hard, industrious students you *must* be, if you would be worthy the name of physician, if you would not fall behind in the march, if you would not suffer continual defeat and ultimate disgrace.

It is important that you prosecute your inquiries, not only with a view of keeping up with the discoveries being made in this and the old world, but that you lose not what you have already gained; for, as the magnet gains more and more in power by being judiciously employed, but by lack of use grows feebler, and finally loses its peculiar properties entirely, so intellectual acquisitions fade away, in a course of sluggish ease and supine inactivity.

To-day, gentlemen, you enter the ranks of the medical profession. Receiving you as we do, with a cordial welcome to our fraternity, we also extend to you our warm sympathy in the trying career upon which you are about to enter. There is, perhaps, no better test of the metal whereof one is made, than that you are about to undergo. Each of you is now probably looking forward according to his predominant mood of mind. To some, their professional future may appear gilded and roseate; to others, the sky may seem o'er cast with clouds, dark and lowering. To some, Hope, may exultantly whisper of success, honor and emolument. To others, Fear, trembling and distressed, may predict but difficulties, hardships and failure at last. But

here, as mostly in life, the reality will be found at neither extreme, but medial. Be assured, the most desirable professional success, the most gratifying professional honor, may be ultimately yours; but meanwhile, forget not that the path leading thereto, is rough and beset with many a thorn. Along this route, however, you must pass, for there is no royal road to that after which you aspire. Delays, disappointments and discouragements, are experienced by the majority of young physicians, no matter what their qualifications, or the circumstances under which they commence their professional career. Be patient therefore, improve wisely every moment of leisure, in preparing yourselves well for the great task before you; your opportunity will be sure to come, and when it arrives, your knowledge and skill should be such as to insure you reputation and success.

While the young physician may thus meet with much to disappoint and dishearten, he will also find real pleasure, true enjoyment. The pure delight of intellectual pursuits may be his; while the suffering poor being everywhere found, by ministering to their ills, he may always experience

“The luxury of doing good.”

Here, as everywhere in life, it is neither all sunshine, nor all shadow. Assured that such alternations are not peculiar to any class or condition of men, you will feel that not to outward circumstances must you look wholly, for a happy equipoise of spirit, but to the *inward*, to the *secret* sources of strength with which a wise and benevolent Creator hath endowed us.

Have faith, *unfaltering* faith in the right. Follow truth *fearlessly*. Seek to know your duty, and knowing, dare to *do it*. Unhappily, it often happens that the physician is placed in such circumstances as render it dubious what constitutes his duty. Infallibility belongs not to mortals, let it be remembered, and if the physician errs, although desiring and endeavoring to do right, he but shares the lot

of all mankind. The young practitioner sometimes finds himself in a labyrinth of perplexity. His duty to his patient, a professional brother and to himself, seem to conflict. What shall he do? How acquit himself so as to secure the approval of the wise and good, but most of all, the approval of his own judgment and conscience? Here, as everywhere, the Golden Rule applies. Let him do as he would be done unto in like circumstances; first to the patient, and then to his professional associates.

The duties of a true physician do not end with merely prescribing for the sick; he must labor to *prevent*, as well as to *cure* disease; he must be a *teacher*, as well as *prescriber*; the *public*, as well as individuals, is entitled to the benefit of his knowledge and experience; and from the influence either for good or evil, which the dignity of the profession will give him in the community, he must see to it, that the correctness of his habits, the purity of his life and integrity of character, are such as to place an example before others worthy of emulation. Too grave are the responsibilities of the practitioner of the divine art of healing, to admit of his physical system being exposed to the strain of contaminating vices, or his mental energies to sluggish inactivity. There is urgent need for the fullest exercise of his highest nature, the employment of his noblest faculties; the clearest perception, the keenest sagacity, the coolest judgment are daily required on his part. In all cases he should struggle to be unselfish, calm, courteous, patient and forbearing.

Firmness and kindness are crowning qualities in the physician. When all around are quaking and helpless with terror, he must be unshaken, immovable; moving swervingly to his benevolent purpose, and effecting it with relentless perseverance; all considerations of self laid aside, the welfare, the real good of the being intrusted to his care, inspiring and sustaining him in his ministration. To the impatience, the unreasonable demands of the sick, he must listen undisturbed; to their unjust censures and ungrateful reproaches, he must be anger proof. Whatever betide in the sick chamber, it behooves him to be master of himself, and

never to suffer his ire to kindle, nor an irritating word to pass his lips. To him, the smitten of disease will look in their extremity, as though life and death waited his will. Around him anxious friends, with breaking hearts will gather, and demand the restoration of the life that is just passing away. Though pity swell his bosom, and the tide of sympathy rise high within him, yet must he preserve the serenest tranquility—clear in sight, quick in judgment, prompt and skillful in action; and having done all, still he may comfort, encourage, and strengthen the pilgrim to the hereafter, and speak soothingly to those whom the departure will cruelly bereave. Assuredly, ours is a noble profession, an exalted mission! To us is given the guardianship of the public health. 'Tis ours to restore strength to the weak, to give spring to the feeble footstep, to restore the rose to the pallid cheek, and brightness to the dimmed eye. 'Tis ours to defer the mortal hour, to delay the grim monster's approach, and at last to alleviate the pangs of the inevitable descent to the land of shadows.

Though pestilence walk the earth at noon-day, and all men flee in horror and dread, the physician may take no thought for his own safety; 'tis of others, and for others, he is required to think. All may lie down to quiet slumbers, and pleasant dreams; the physician can not call an hour his own; through sweltering heat, and piercing cold, early and late, through storm and darkness, when called he must go; no matter whither called, whether to the proud habitations of the wealthy, the dwellings of poverty and toil, or to the hovels of squalor and degradation.

To your prudence and honor, will sometimes be entrusted the reputation, not of the solitary individual only, but that of whole families. Be worthy of the trust. Guard sacredly the secrets committed to your keeping. Scorn the baseness of betraying the confidence, of which your profession has made you the possessor. Observe the utmost delicacy, the strictest purity in your professional relations. Let your intercourse with your patients ever be distinguished by

truthfulness and candor; remembering that while deception may for a time, secure the purposes for which it is employed, the veil will ultimately fall, exposing to great disadvantage, the duplicity of the deceiver.

It is our desire gentlemen, that you go out from us, imbued with the liberal spirit of the motto of your Alma Mater.

"In certis unitas, in dubiis libertas, in omnibus charitas."

It has been our aim to instruct you carefully in the demonstrably true, to make you thoroughly acquainted with the fundamentals of medical science; to impress on you the duty, the necessity of distinguishing between the hypothetical and the actually proved, and to encourage you to examine and compare, and then judge for yourselves. Having adopted such views, upon the various questions upon which the profession is divided, as may appear to you the most reasonable, you are counseled to the largest liberality towards others who may conscientiously hold different opinions. Demand for yourselves, therefore, the *fullest* freedom, but remember and accord to your professional brethren, *all* that you claim for yourselves.

You have chosen, and are about entering a profession of the most exalted dignity. Be worthy of the profession. Be generously emulous of each other, and of your *Æsculapian* brethren, in all that is noble, just and good; but shun all petty rivalries, illiberal prejudices, and unfair dealings. Let your intercourse with your professional brethren be regulated by the nicest sense of honor. Study carefully the ethics of the profession, and in all cases regulate your conduct by the same. Let the professional jealousy with which medical practitioners are so often, and too justly charged, find no lodgment in your minds.

I would here remind you, that you will owe duties to the profession at large, as well as to one another. Improve the earliest opportunity for joining your local as well as State Medical Societies, and where none exist, become pioneers

if necessary, in their organization. Endeavor to add to the general store of medical knowledge, by carefully preserving and reporting all such cases occurring in your practice, as may be of interest or profit to others. From a careless neglect in this matter, much valuable experience is lost. Do not let it be said by those who are to succeed you, that you have passed away, and left no record of your experience and observations, but miser-like, have carried everything with you to the grave. Commence this duty early, and it will soon become a source of satisfaction to yourselves, as well as benefit to others. Do not feel that there remains nothing more to be accomplished in our profession. Medicine is a progressive science; and when we remember what advancement has been made within the past twenty-five years in its several departments, we should be stimulated to a still more careful exploration of the arcana of nature, for the discovery of means and remedies for the cure of disease, and mitigation of human suffering.

Let me here urge that you supply yourselves at the earliest possible moment, not only with the medicines and instruments usually considered essential for the practice of our art, but with every other means necessary for the careful investigation and diagnosis of disease. The day has arrived when, to the enlightened physician, the microscope, the ophthalmoscope, the laryngoscope, &c., as well as a list of chemical re-agents, become an essential part of his outfit.

Keep yourselves posted in the current literature of the profession, by becoming subscribers and readers of our medical journals. Aim at acquiring as rapidly as possible, at least a respectable medical library. Do not be satisfied with practicing your profession for a life-time, with a mere student's assortment of text books, but resolve that no year shall pass, without at least a few works being added to your collection. In this manner you will soon place yourselves in a position, not only to command the respect of your medical brethren, but to secure the confidence and patronage of the community.

It is your good fortune, gentlemen, to enter the profession at a time when the future of Homœopathy never before appeared so bright. In our own country, the existence of seven Homœopathic Medical Colleges, as many general hospitals in active operation, and others in a state of organization; with a National Association, twenty State, and near sixty County Societies, uniting and harmonizing our rank and file, of between four and five thousand practitioners; with the indications of the spread of our system in the Old World, including India and Australia, as well as Europe, as evinced by the recent appointment of a lecturer on Homœopathy in the ancient and renowned University of Salamanca, Spain, and the organization of Hospitals and Dispensaries in various directions; with a literature rapidly increasing in extent and value, and embracing periodicals published in nearly every modern language, including twelve in English, and nine in the German, French, Italian and Spanish; these, with a rapidly increasing popular favor, all go to indicate a degree of prosperity of the most flattering character; and to render the present a time particularly auspicious for your advent upon the professional stage.

In looking over the catalogue of the alumni of the college, now numbering over eight hundred graduates, we are gratified by finding not only the names of many who have become distinguished as physicians and surgeons, but several who have acquired well earned reputations as editors, authors and professors. Of the twenty-four classes that have been sent forth from the institution in the same number of years, not one fails to present the names of those who have either already made their mark, or offer the brightest promise for the future. And now, from the zeal with which you have prosecuted your studies, from the high grade of proficiency evinced by the examinations just completed, without wishing to make invidious comparisons, I must with all candor say, that none have acquitted themselves with higher honor, or given greater promise

of a future of honorable distinction, than the class of 1872.

And now, as our separation draws nigh, permit me again to tender you our cordial congratulations, to again welcome you to the ranks of our profession. As you go forth to engage in the great struggle of life, forget not your Alma Mater; bear her always in kind remembrance, and exhibit your filial affection and gratitude, not only in laboring for her interest, but by such magnanimous conduct, as shall prove you deserving sons, and not unworthy of her maternal pride.

May you be encouraged; may your brightest hopes be more than realized; may you be instrumental in the relief of much human suffering; may honor, emolument and happiness ultimately crown your efforts; and may you

" So live, that, when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan, that moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon; but sustained and sooth'd
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,
Like one that draws the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Such is my earnest prayer, as I bid you all this last
FAREWELL!

LIST OF GRADUATES.

CLIFFORD BURDOTT ADAMS.....	Tariffville, Ct
SAMUEL CLEMENT BOSLEY.....	Smithfield, Pa.
DAVID WESLEY BARTINE, A.M.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
JULIUS ARTHUR BULLARD.....	Montrose, Pa.
ISAAC AMBROSE BARBER.....	Salem New Jersey.
DANIEL HIESTER BRADLEY.....	Contestville, Pa.
GEORGE FERGUSON COUTANT.....	Buttsburg, Pa.
JOHN HOWARD CRIPPEN.....	Courtland, New York.
EUGENE GENIUS CAYCE.....	Hopkinsville, Kentucky.
THOMAS ALLYN CAPEN.....	Taunton, Mass.
HENRY CRATER.....	Somerville, New Jersey.
GEORGE HENRY CLARK.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
NATHANIEL RAY CHACE.....	Providence, R. I.
FRANCISCO DONADO PUENTE.....	Barranguilla, South America.
WILFORD WASHINGTON FETTERMAN.....	Pittsburg, Pa.
HENRY W. FULTON.....	Pittsburg, Pa.
WILLIAM HENRY GESNER GRIFFITH.....	Woodstock, Canada.
WILLIAM MULLEN GRIFFITH.....	Honeybrook, Pa.
WALTER S. GOODHUE.....	Lebanon, Ohio
HENRY GILBORNE.....	Three Mile Bay, New York.
JOSEPH COLBURN GUERNSEY, A.B.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
CHARLES D. HERRON.....	Pittsburg, Pa.
JOHN HARLAN.....	Wilmington, Del.
ROBERT MURDOCH.....	Ulster, Pa.
ALVIN ISAAC MILLER.....	Mechanicsburg, Pa.
LUCIUS DANIEL MORSE.....	Nashville, Tenn.
EDWARD MAHR.....	Louisville, Kentucky.
SAMUEL C. MOYER.....	Quakertown, Pa.
FRANK RUSSELL NORTON.....	Lockport, New York.
SAMUEL ELVELL NEWTON.....	Paulsboro, New Jersey.
THOMAS BENTON PULISIFER.....	Ellsworth, Me.
ROBERT SHEILD PERKINS.....	Norfolk, Va.
ARISTEAD B. C. RUFF.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
THOMAS E. REED.....	Middletown, Ohio.
THOMAS WILLIAM ROBERTSON.....	Altoon, Mich.
EDWARD EUGENE SNYDER, M.D.....	Candor, New York.
GEORGE DALLAS STREETER.....	Nebraska City, Nebraska.
EDWIN SIMMER.....	Pfuhvalsborn, Germany.
JOHN GILLETTE SWINNEY.....	Bridgeton, N. J.
TRUMAN KELLOGG SMITH.....	Auburn, New York.
SAMUEL MYERS TRINKLE.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
JAMES GILMORE THOMPSON.....	Allegheny, Pa.
MATTHEW STRONG WILLIAMSON.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
ERNST AUGUSTUS WEHRMAN.....	Hanibal, Ohio.
THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN WOOD.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
JACOB HEALD WAY, M.D.....	Nebraska City, Nebraska.
SYLVESTER BACHMAN WEAVER.....	Manchester, Md.
THEODORE ROGERS WAUGH.....	Carthage, New York.
GEORGE WASHINGTON WILLIAMS.....	Humboldt, Kansas.
WILLIAM MANLOVE WHITEHEAD, A.M.....	Wayne, Pa.
WILLIAM MAURICE ZERNS.....	Salem, New Jersey.

ANNOUNCEMENT

OF

The Hahnemann Medical College,

OF PHILADELPHIA.

SESSION 1872-3.

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION.

IN issuing this Announcement, the Boards of Trustees take pleasure in recalling the fact, that nearly a quarter of a century has gone by since the foundation of this College. If time be any guarantee of ripeness, it may well at this juncture be claimed for the first and oldest of Homœopathic Colleges.

Its efforts in the past, to supply a course of instruction, at once profitable to the student, and creditable to our profession, have been met by cordial appreciation and material support.

The epidemic, which has so largely affected the whole country, has not been without a seriously unfavorable influence on business of all kinds, and educational institutions have suffered pecuniary loss, and diminished classes in consequence. Notwithstanding this, we are gratified to have it to say, that the number and character, as well as the health of our class, for the session just closed, compares favorably with the successful past; whilst the enthusiasm of all who have taken part in its labors, bids fair to maintain its high standing in the future.

Whilst renewing our proposal of a Three Years' graded Course, the obligatory requirements remain as heretofore, in common with the oldest and most honored medical schools of our country. We shall, however, as fast as we may, introduce all improvements which seem practicable. In the meantime, we desire to call the attention of the profession to the duty of doing all in their power to maintain a rigid adherence to the requirements already existing, to discourage all abridgement of duty on the part of students, requiring their prompt

attendance at the opening of each session, and faithful continuance to the very last day of the same. In the short lecture-term, the instruction being greatly concentrated, each days' work should be held as obligatory and indispensable.

From past experience we are constrained to ask special attention on the part of preceptors, to this point. On our part, nothing shall be wanting to secure a faithful performance of duty, as well as an equivalent of advantage to the pupil.

Measures will be taken also to otherwise increase our already large facilities for instruction; and in all respects we shall endeavor to fulfil to the utmost the just demands of the profession.

The Hospital connected with the College has proved a most valuable means of teaching, as well as of beneficence.

The State appropriation and private benevolence have borne an abundant harvest of good; and it is believed, that the present flourishing and successful status of this department will speedily advance to better and more extended usefulness and repute. It shall still be carefully fostered in the aspect of a clinical school, demonstrating the application of Homœopathy to diseases, as well as to the treatment of surgical cases. The other large hospitals are also open to our students.

We would also refer to the great assistance rendered to the student by our very large and complete museum. Its 4,200 specimens facilitate the demonstrative lectures, and help the student to a better understanding of the subjects taught.

REGULATIONS OF THE COLLEGE.

THE preliminary course (free of charge), begins September 30th. The regular Course of Lectures will begin on the second Monday in October, and end about the first of March ensuing.

To constitute a full course, the full ticket must be taken by the first Monday in November.

Students who have attended two full courses of instruction in this institution shall be admitted to the subsequent courses of the College without further charge.

Students may become candidates for graduation who have attended two full courses of instruction in this institution; or one course only, in case they have attended one or more full courses in another accredited Medical College.

A candidate must be at least twenty-one years of age, of good

moral character, possessed of sufficient preliminary education, have applied himself to the study of medicine for three years, and have been a private pupil for two years, of a respectable practitioner of medicine; and must have attended at least one course of Practical Anatomy.

When applying for examination, he must first exhibit his tickets to the Registrar of the Faculty, or give other satisfactory evidence of having complied with the regulations.

He must, on or before the first of February, deliver to the Registrar of the Faculty an Essay or Thesis, in his own handwriting, composed by himself, on some medical subject, at which time he will pay the fee of graduation; if rejected, the money will be refunded.

The Thesis may be written in English, Latin, German, French, or Spanish, at the option of the candidate, and must be written on Thesis paper and on one side of the sheet only.

The Examination for graduation will begin immediately at the close of the course, and the commencement for conferring the Degrees of the College will be held as soon after the close of the lectures as practicable.

The examination will be conducted in private by each Professor, and the voting, in the case of every candidate, shall be by ballot.

In unsatisfactory cases, the candidate may, with the consent of the Faculty, avail himself of a second examination before the Faculty or the Board of Curators.

Formal notice of each satisfactory examination shall be given by the Registrar to the successful candidate, who shall record his name and address upon the register of graduates, with the title of his Thesis.

The names of the successful candidates are to be reported by the Dean to the President of the College, who will communicate such report to the Board of Corporation Trustees, in order that, on confirmation by them, the degree may be conferred.

A successful candidate shall not absent himself from the Public Commencement, without the permission of the Faculty.

A Thesis may be published by the candidate, permission of the Faculty being first obtained.

For terms, lecture fees, &c., see forthcoming regular Announcement.

For other particulars, Address,

H. N. GUERNSEY, M. D., *Dean*,
No. 1423 Chestnut Street,
or, RICHARD KOCH, M. D., *Registrar*,
No. 35 North Twelfth Street.